

**RUTH KHASAYA ONIANG'O, PhD, Food Science and Nutrition
and Former member of Parliament, KENYA
(up to DEC 2007)**

CURRICULUM VITAE - JANUARY 2009

Highlights:

1. I was educated in Kenya and in the USA. I have worked in Kenya throughout my professional life, gaining my international experience through meetings and conferences and through participation in multi-national dialogues. Beyond my academic training, I have spent a considerable amount of time talking about food security and hunger issues.
2. Serving on international Boards such as Gates Foundation Agriculture Strategy Advisory Committee, IFDC, IRRI, IFPRI Program advisory Committee, MONSANTO Biotechnology Advisory Council, I have learnt a lot personally, have represented the African side of things and have also brought back a lot to Africa, and have encouraged a focus on Africa through partnerships.
3. As member of Kenya's 9th Parliament (up to Dec 2007), areas of interest included Science and Technology, Agricultural Research, Food Security, Nutrition as a Profession, HIV/AIDS and Nutrition, Gender, improvement of agricultural productivity, support for bio-safety legislation, encouraging use of fertilizers and other inputs in agriculture. I can now address policy aspects of these issues, something that was not easy to do without having the Parliamentary experience. I was also the Shadow Minister for Education in the 9th Parliament, strongly advocating for both access and quality.
4. As founder of Rural Outreach Program (a non-profit NGO) www.ropkenya.org have managed to use limited resources to reach directly more than 10,000 farmers and through field days and vernacular radio, close to 300, 000 farmers; have promoted beta carotene rich African leafy vegetables; have established a community seed bank and how to get the seeds certified; orange fleshed sweet potatoes - households are now using these to enhance the diets of children and

people living with HIV/AIDS; dairy farming for women farmers has elevated the status of women in this otherwise male chauvinistic community and improved incomes in 500 households. My NGO ROP was the first to introduce grade cattle in this community despite being warned they would not survive. The dairy project is the flagship activity of our organization.

5. As Founder Editor-in-Chief of AJFAND (African Journal of Food, Agriculture, Nutrition and Development) www.ajfand.net have managed to keep an *online* peer reviewed journal going with limited resources for 5 years and are now in 13th issue. Hope to get it indexed this year (2008). We use both journal and NGO to provide internship opportunities to students, so far about 20. We have seen quality of journal improve, and articles come in spontaneously and we have enough lined up for the next 3 years.
6. I am a strong advocate of capacity building and in fact continue to provide internship opportunities to young promising professionals.

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- 2. Qualifications:** PhD Food Science and Nutrition,
MSc Human Nutrition

- 3. Contact:** **A. Rural Outreach Program**
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- 4. Religion:** Christian

- 5. Date and Place of Birth:**
9 September 1946,
Kakamega, Western Kenya

- 5. Nationality:** Citizen of Kenya

- 6. Marital Status:** Married
Children: 5, and three Grandchildren

- 7. Position and Address:**
Former Member of Parliament (Nominated)
and Former Shadow Minister for Education,
Science and Technology, was
Vice Chair of Kenya Women Parliamentarians
Association, and Member of Education, Science
and Technology while in Parliament
Founder, Rural Outreach Program (1992)
(an NGO which supports resource-poor farmer
groups engaged in production and
agro-processing of farm produce at the
community level, for example indigenous
vegetables, milk, root crops and so on)
Editor-in-Chief and Founder
African Journal of Food, Agriculture, Nutrition and
Development (AJFAND), previously African Journal
of Food and Nutritional Sciences (AJFNS).

AJFAND is a peer reviewed scholarly journal now in its 13th issue

for the dissemination of scientific findings.

Website: www.ajfand.net

Professor of Food Science and Nutrition
Jomo Kenyatta University of Agric. & Technology
(took leave to serve in Kenya's 9th Parliament,
and then resigned in 2007)

PART A

1. Education

<u>Year</u>	<u>Institution</u>	<u>Certificate/Degree Obtained</u>
1965	Alliance Girls' High School, Kikuyu, Kenya	Cambridge Overseas School Certificate (O-Level)
1967	- Do -	Cambridge Overseas Higher School Certificate (A-Level)
1971	Washington State University, Pullman	BSc (Food and Nutrition) <i>with Distinction</i> Washington, USA
1973	- do -	MSc (Human Nutrition)
1983	University of Nairobi	PhD (Food Science and Nutrition)

Awards for studies: ASPAU Scholarship for undergraduate Studies,
and various Scholarship support for Graduate studies

2. Employment

<u>Period</u>	<u>Employer</u>	<u>Position</u>
1990 -	Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology	Professor of Food Science and Nutrition (1996 -) First woman Professor at Jomo Kenyatta University Associate Professor of Food Science and Nutrition (1990 – 1996)
1978 - 1990	Kenyatta University	Associate Professor

	(1988 – 1990) Senior Lecturer
	(1984-1988) Lecturer
	(1981 – 1984) Assistant Lecturer
	(1978 – 1981)
1977 – 1978	University of Nairobi Tutorial Fellow and registered for PhD University of Nairobi

3. Sample of Research and Projects Experience in the past 15 years

- 1998 Co-editor with two others, of a book entitled: **Not by Bread Alone: Food Security and Governance in Africa**. Toda Institute, 1999. I served as the main coordinator of the meeting that culminated in the book.
- 1998 Contributing author in two chapters in a KARI coordinated book: **“The Role of Universities in Agricultural Research”**, with Professor Carl Eicher, Distinguished Professor, Michigan State University, USA and a second Chapter on Biotechnology with Joel Cohen of ISNAR and late Dr John Wafula of KARI.
- 1992-1996 Director of Mumias Project, funded by the Bernard van Leer Foundation (the Netherlands); was an action research project that sought to improve people’s livelihoods in a community participatory way through a number of activities related to food security, women’s education, water, health and sanitation and child development.
- 1993 As a result of the above project, Rural Outreach Program (ROP) was born to continue with relevant development activities. I serve as the principal coordinator of the Rural Outreach Program, which is now expanding to cover a catchment rural population of 300,000 in western Kenya. The major program focus is improvement of rural people’s livelihoods through food security and nutrition activities. Major projects are: Dairy development, water, indigenous vegetables, health education and early childhood development, and women entrepreneurship.
- 1992-1995 Kenya’s Principal Researcher for UNRISD (United Nations Research Institute for Social Development) funded project on

Women, Environment and Population study under the auspices of UNRISD.

The study covered three countries: Kenya, Mexico and Malaysia. In Kenya the study site was Embu. This was carried out at a time when negative environmental impacts were beginning to be associated with food insecurity and malnutrition.

1984-1987 Was involved in a collaborative research project with IFPRI (International Food Policy Research Institute headquartered in Washington DC, USA) on **“The Effects of Commercialization of Agriculture on Nutritional Status of Women and Children: the Case of Sugarcane in western Kenya”**. Served as project director, for 6 months while on sabbatical leave and subsequently co-authored a number of papers that came out of it. The results from this study have had far reaching policy implications in Kenya and increased awareness among Kenya’s policy makers.

4. Consultancies/Consultation (select number)

- In September 2001, undertook a consultancy with Winrock International in Kampala, Uganda. The objectives of the consultancy included:
 - i) Designing a program aimed at increasing the income of women farmers in Uganda through the application of animal traction and other labor-saving technologies; introduction of improved post-harvest and agro-processing technologies, and the creation of women-managed “one stop” self-help centers.
 - (ii) Collaboratively prepared a concept paper for submission to the Managing Directors of Winrock International Agriculture and Leadership Development and to SG 2000 in Uganda. This concept paper formed the basis of a proposal submitted to donor agencies which support rural development in Uganda.
- Completed a one-month consultancy for IPGRI to assist with the preparation of phase II of Indigenous Vegetable Project and participated in a Regional Planning workshop thereafter to prepare a mega project proposal involving 6 countries.
- In July 2000 prepared Conference Report for 20- country stakeholders meeting on Capacity Building, for African Capacity Building Foundation (ACBF) in Harare.

- Worked with FANTA and LINKAGES of USA in year 2000 on issues related to
 - i) Best Practices in Nutrition Programs
 - ii) Food Fortification
 - iii) Nutrition Coalitions in Uganda, Tanzania and Kenya as a Regional Coordinator for Nutrition capacity development in Africa; Helped to found these so that each of the three East African countries has a Nutrition Coalition that is affiliated to the International Union of Nutritional Sciences.

- Completed a six-week consultancy for FAO in 1998. *Assessing University Programs in South Africa – I visited 9 Universities and 3 Technikons, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Manpower Development, and the Private Sector. The aim here was to assess to what extent tertiary institutions were adjusting their nutrition programs to meet the needs of the “New South Africa” especially in community development. The results were discussed with the relevant institution officers and helped with the reforms that were subsequently effected.*

- Consultant editor of Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations – Agriculture, Food and Nutrition for Africa: A resource book for teachers of agriculture, 1995. This book has been widely used in Africa.

- Consultation on Sorghum and Pearl Millet Food Technology in Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) countries for the International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) 1995.

- Consultation for University of Namibia on establishment of a Department of Food Science and Nutrition in a starting Faculty of Agriculture 1994. *This department has since been established.*

- Consultation for the NGO Sasakawa Global 2000 on Utilization of Sorghum in Tanzania 1993. *Multiple yields had been realized as a result of modern technological applications and the program did not have expertise on post-harvest management and consumption aspects of the crop. I visited the program severally that year for this purpose .As a result, home*

economics was involved in program activities and devised various sorghum-based products. The whole issue of value addition incorporated in the program.

- Consultancy on the Evaluation of an Applied Nutrition Program of the Kenya Freedom from Hunger Council 1992.
This was a community-based program addressing rainwater harvesting into zero-cement tanks and rearing of both small animal and food production on small pieces of land, 0.5 of hectare. Experience from this assignment made me start community-based activities in my own home district in Kenya.
- Consultancy on the Evaluation of the Family Life Training Program that aims at rehabilitating severely malnourished children 1991.
My report led to the de-institutionalization of this previously residential program. What there is now for this Danish Government (DANIDA) program is a community-based approach that addresses problems right at the home level and puts emphasis on food production and household food security.
- Consultant and resource person over the years for Kenya Government on Development Plans - Food Security issues. I authored the Food Security Chapter in the National Development Plan for a number of years
- Served on Committee to assess programs of the Food and Nutrition Division and Technical Consultations of FAO, 1998.
- Have collaborated with Kenya Agricultural Research Institute (KARI) over the years, in both research and advisory roles including assisting in the formulation of the Strategic Plans
- Have run a number of FAO and WHO sponsored workshops in Africa in general and in Kenya in particular
- Have assisted IFPRI in three of the strategic planning meetings and served as a resource person in a number of their seminars.

5. Major Conferences Attended

International Nutrition Congress. 1981, 1985, 1997, 2001

World Food Summit 1996, Rome, as part of the Kenyan delegation, technical support. Assisted in the preparation of the Africa Position Paper and led the preparation of Kenya's country paper.

International Conference on Nutrition, Rome, 1992 as part of the Kenyan delegation, technical support team. Assisted with preparation of Africa's position paper.

Vision 2020 Conference in Bonn in 2001 at the invitation of IFPRI.

6. Major Consultations Attended

Consultation on carbohydrates 1996- FAO, Rome

Consultation on Nutrition Education 1996- FAO, Rome

Consultation on Food-Based Dietary Guidelines 1995- FAO, Rome

Consultation on Micronutrients, 1998- FAO/WHO, Thailand

PART B

7. (a) Publications (Sample)

I have at least 50 articles in international and local journals and magazines. Only samples are given.

1. Oniang'o, R.K., A. O. Makokha and S.M. Njoroge. The Impact of Government Policy and Regulation on the Development of the Food Processing Industry in East Africa: The Case of Kenya. Journal of Food Technology in Africa Vol 4 No. 4 1999
- 2 Adelani, O., Oniang'o, R.K. and May J. (Eds). Not by bread alone: Food Security and Governance in Africa. Published in South Africa on behalf of the Toda Institute for Global Peace and Policy Research 1999

3. Oniang'o, R.K. and J.Allotey Food Safety and the Role of Government. In Not by bread alone. 1999.19:264-297
4. Oniang'o, R.K. and A. Kimokoti
Food Habits in Kenya: The Effects of Change and Attendant Methodological Problems.
Appetite 32, 93-96 1999
5. Oniang'o, R.K. Fibre: Implications for the Consumer. Paper presented at the 16th International Congress of Nutrition, in the Symposium of Fibre, Sponsored by the FAO and Kellogg's Company, July 26 - 1 August, 1997, Montreal, Canada.
Published in Nutrition Reviews, 1998
6. Oniang'o, R. K. (1995). The Impacts of Out-Migration on Household Livelihoods and on the Management of Natural Resources: A Kenya Case Study. IDS Bulletin Vol. 26 No.1 January, Pg. 54
7. Oniang'o, R. K. (1994). An Overview of Food Systems under Stress: Research/Action Issues and Needs in East Africa. IDRC Pg 21
8. Oniang'o, R. K. (1994). Embu and People's Livelihoods: Implications for Sustainable Development Policy. Development 1994; 1 Pg 35 Journal of SID
9. Kennedy, E. and R. Oniang'o, 1992. Determinants of Household and Pre-School Vitamin A Consumption in South Western Kenya. Xerophthalmia Club 49. Published in the Journal of Nutrition
10. Oniang'o, R. K. 1992. Food and Nutrition Situation in Kenya: An Overview. In Special Issue of Medicus on Food and Nutrition, Medicus Vol. 11 No. 11, 1992

I also edited all papers in the issue, which was prepared on behalf of the Nutrition Association of Kenya to mark the International Conference on Nutrition, which was held in Rome in December, 1992. Title: Special Issue on Food and Nutrition Vol. 11 No. 11, 1992
11. Oniang'o, R. K. 1992. Women and Health: Research Priorities Medicus, Vol. 11 No. 6. June, 1992
12. Oniang'o, R. K. and Rogo, K. O. (1990). Nutrition and Cancer: A Review. East African Medical Journal, March, 1990

13. Oniang'o, R. K. and P. A. Odhiambo. Diet and Your Heart. Medicom Vol. 9 No. 4 April, 1989
14. Oniang'o, R. K. and D. Alnwick (1987). Weaning Foods in Kenya: Traditions and Trends in Improving Young Child Feeding in Eastern and Southern Africa, appearing in: "Household Level Food Technology", Book published by UNICEF, SIDA, IDRC, 1989
15. Oniang'o, R. K., Kayongo-Male, H. and P. Saint - Hillaire. Effects of Long-Term Feeding of Maize, Bean and Whey Rations on the Growth and Composition of Blood, Liver, Pancreas of Albino Rats. Biological Series of the Kenya Academy's Journal of Sciences (B) 1987, 8(1-2): 121-128

7. (b) Books

1. Have a Chapter entitled: "Strategies Adopted by African Women to Enhance Food Security" in a book titled: The Gendered New World Order: Militarism, The Environment and Development
2. **Complete Kenya Cookery**, Arnold Publishers, 1990
3. **Feeding the Child**, East African Book Publishers, 1989.
4. **Not by Bread Alone: Food Security and Governance in Africa**, Toda Institute – 1999
5. The Role of Universities in Agricultural Research – sponsored by the Rockefeller Foundation

7. (c) Special Editor For

- East African Medical Journal
- Society for Nutrition Education
- **Agriculture, Food and Nutrition for Africa: A resource book for teachers of agriculture.** An FAO sponsored publication

8. Awards and Distinctions

- Top science student at Alliance Girls' High School in the Cambridge Overseas School Certificate examinations, 1965
- Won both scholastic and sports awards throughout high school, 1962 to 1967
- Served as School Games Captain and House Captain concurrently
- Was one of 5 Kenyans (only female) to be awarded a competitive scholarship, a USA/Kenya Government scheme, to study in the USA starting in 1968
- Nominated and selected to serve on the UN Advisory Group on Nutrition for 5 years. I was one of 8 scientists from around the world to serve on this committee, 1995 - 1999
- Selected by the Director General of FAO to the High Level Panel to review programs and advise on how they should proceed for the next 10-15 years for the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in 1998
- Selected to a Special 5-member Committee on “**Changing Role of IUNS [International Union of Nutritional Sciences] in the 21st Century**” to review the structure and functioning of IUNS and make recommendations on how nutrition can be better fostered during the 21st century. Job was completed and results presented at the IUNS Congress in Vienna, Austria in August 2001
- I was honored to give a special lecture entitled: Nutrition challenges and opportunities in the 21st century, and also moderated the African symposium which was a special symposium in the congress at the 17th International Congress of Nutrition held in Vienna, in August 2001

9. National Honors

- Presidential Honors:
 - Awarded the medal **Silver Star** by the President of the Republic of Kenya in 1995 for outstanding service to the country in community development through action research,
 - and in 1998 **Distinguished Service Medal** for National Service.

- Member of Task Force on Review of Laws affecting Women and Children in Kenya, 1995
- Member of Presidential Committee on Financing of University Education in Kenya, 1995
- Board Member of Kenya Bureau of Standards 1983 – 1995.
- Member of Egerton University Council, 1993 – 1996
- Presidential Appointment to the Poverty Eradication Commission 2000-2005
- Awarded '**Lifetime Achievement Award**' by the Kenya Coalition for Action in Nutrition (KCAN), in recognition of contributions to the advancement of nutrition and development initiatives in Kenya, 2007

International Honors

Fellow of the International Union of Food Science and Technology 2006

Fellow of the International Union of Nutritional Sciences 2006

Fellow of the World Academy of Science and Art 2006

Fellow of the Overseas Correspondents of the Royal Academy of Science 2007

10. Leadership Positions

- | | |
|--------|---|
| 2000 - | <p>Founder Editor-in-Chief
African Journal of Food, Agriculture, Nutrition and Development (AJFAND). This is a peer reviewed Journal for dissemination and sharing of food and Nutrition information relevant to Africa. The Journal has an International Advisory Board.</p> |
| 2000 - | <p>Research – Principal Investigator FAO sponsored project –
Assessment of Seasonal Variability in Adult body Mass Index (BMI) in semi-arid areas of Kenya, Thika</p> |
| 2001 - | <p>Research – Principal Investigator SIGHT AND LIFE
sponsored project – development of educational materials on Vitamin A for use in primary schools in Kenya</p> |
| 1996 - | <p>Continued to be Coordinator of a Rural Development Program addressing rural livelihoods and focusing on improvement of household food security</p> |
| 1995 | <p>3-day Post ICN Regional Meeting Selected by FAO to chair the meeting in Harare</p> |

1992 – 1996		Nutrition Association of Kenya Chairperson, managed to get the Association to become an adhering body of the IUNS
1992 -		Founder Executive Director Rural Outreach Program local action research NGO Supporting women and other resource poor farmer groups engaged in agro-processing of farm produce at the community level
1992 – 1996		The Mumias Project (Director and Principal Investigator (community based action research)
1992	ICN	Selected by FAO and WHO to rapporteur Chaired Regional meetings in Nairobi for 18 Anglophone countries; and in Accra to consolidate the Anglophone and Francophone reports to produce one report for Africa; FAO selected me to be rapporteur for one of the ICN groups
1990 – 1995		Founder Director of Board of Postgraduate Studies Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology
1988 – 1990		Kenyatta University Chairperson, Department of Home Economics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secured major UNESCO funding for expansion of the Department • Established the Faculty of Home Economics with 4 departments

11. National Service

Founded the Kenya Union of Food Science and Technology and got it to be adhering body to the International Union of Food Science and Technology

Founding member of the Kenya Coalition for Action in Nutrition (KCAN), which became the adhering body of Kenya on the International Union of Nutritional Sciences (IUNS)

Advisor and main coordinator of preparation of Kenya's Country Paper at the World Food Summit, Rome, November 1996. Kenya's country paper received three awards from the Director General of FAO

Wrote a paper for the Office of the President of Kenya on Disaster Management: Drought and Refugees, 1994

Three times prepared the Kenya Development Plan chapter on Improving nutrition and household food security in the 1990s

Team Leader for the writing of the Kenya Country Paper on nutrition for the International Conference on Nutrition 1992

Member of Interministerial Coordinating Committee on Food and Nutrition 1990 -

12. Regional and International Responsibilities

Member of the African Task Force on Food and Nutrition, 1994

Member of the Africa Steering Committee on Nutrition Leadership Training, 1999 -2003

Member of the 21st Century Committee for the International Union of Nutritional Sciences – 1999 – 2000

Executive Committee member, Administrative Committee on Coordination/Sub-Committee on Nutrition (ACC/SCN), representing civil society, including the academic community, 2001 -2003

Member of the International and Local Organizing and Scientific Committees of the IT in the Advancement of Nutrition in Africa (ITANA), 2001-2003

Member of the CODEX Independent Panel for Review of Food Standards, 2000 –2001; I represented Africa on this Panel

Food Security Advisor – Development Gateway (World Bank), 2002 -2003

- Spearheading Capacity Building in Food and Nutritional Sciences in Africa.

Capacity development

I). I continue to supervise postgraduate students and facilitate attachment opportunities for them

PART C

13. Board Membership

- Kenya Gatsby Charitable Trust
Functions: Supports small and medium enterprises as a way of fighting poverty, 1996 - 2003
- Food Security and Sustainable Development Division of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) 1998 – 2001
- Institute for Policy Research Analysis (IPAR), 1999.- 2004
- Member of Board for colleges and 4 secondary schools in Kenya over the past 15 years
- International Centre for Soil Fertility and Agricultural Development (IFDC), USA, 2001 –
- Biotechnology Advisory Council, Monsanto-USA, to represent Africa and nutrition, 2001-
- Member of Trustees for the International Rice Research Institute, a CGIAR Centre, 2004 –
- Member of the Project Advisory Committee of the HarvestPlus, a CGIAR Challenge Program seeking to enhance bioavailability of nutrients from food crops using conventional means, 2002
- Have just become a member of the Nutrition Third World Board, based in Belgium and supports Third World Nutrition Research

14. University Responsibilities

- Chairperson, Department of Home Economics, Kenyatta University, 1988-90
- Responsible for Exams, Timetable, Student warden, between 1978 and 1988, Kenyatta University

- Chairperson of the Kenya Inter-Universities Sub-Committee on Student Catering, 1992 – 1993. Our report saw major changes in all 5 public universities pertaining to student catering and accommodation, that gave recommendations on how student meals could be affordable but at the same time of high quality and nutritious
- Member of the Academic Board, Senate and Council of Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology 1990 – 1995.
- Founder Director for 5 years, of the Board of Postgraduate Studies at Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology

15. Supervision of Postgraduate Students and External Examiner at Universities in Africa

Supervised [*in the past 15 years*]

- 15 MSc degree students at Moi and Kenyatta Universities
- 6 PhD degree students at Moi and Kenyatta Universities
- Currently supervising 2 PhD candidates of Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology

External Examiner in Food and Nutrition at

- University of Malawi (1996 - 1998) and PhD dissertation in 2003
- Sokoine University, Tanzania (1996 - 1998)
- Maseno University, Kenya (1992 - 1996) – In this case, I was external examining for a starting department of one-roomed office and a handful of staff, for 5 years and stopped when it had attained faculty status with a whole block of space and more than 10 members of staff
- University of Nairobi, Kenya – Regional Postgraduate Program (1986-1989 and 1992-1996) – I assisted in the initial establishment of this regional program
- Egerton University, Kenya (1986 - 1989)
- Moi University, Eldoret, Kenya (1996 – 1999) – I was the founder external examiner/advisor of this department and saw it grow from a small unit to a full-fledged department of Human Nutrition.

PART D

16. External Travel

I have attended numerous conferences and presented papers. I have also traveled for consultation, external examination and for advisory purposes or on invitation to make public presentations; in doing all this, I have visited many parts of the world.

17. Extra Curricular Activities

I enjoy cooking

I take time to do work-outs

I enjoy time with my children/grandchildren

I like being involved in charity/development work in my home community

-New Appointments

a) Co-ordinator Society of African Journal Editors (SAJE)

b) Founder President of the Kenya Union of Food Science and Technology

c) Was nominated to Kenya's Ninth Parliament from 2002-2007.

18. Referees

1. Dr Hannah Jaenicke

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2. Mr Fred Ogana

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3. Patricia Munayi

Gender Advisor, Canadian Cooperation Office (CCO)

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4. Prof. Paul Thompson, Ph.D.
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